

Homework 2 Answer Key

Problems:

2.1 A: 1, 2, 7, 11, 15, 17 // B: 3, 7, 8, 10

2.2 A: 1, 4, 6, 12, 14, 19 // B: 1, 7, 9, 11 // C: 1, 5, 7, 13, 17, 18 // D: 1, 3, 6, 9

2.3 A: 4, 8, 10, 13, 17, 19 // B: 2, 6, 13, 15, 19

2.1 A

1. Nonargument (explanation)
2. Nonargument (conditional statement)
7. Argument. Conclusion: Without us, light does not exist.
11. Nonargument (explanation)
15. Argument. Conclusion: Not all mob bosses avoid prison.
17. Nonargument (conditional statement)

2.1B

3. P1: Legalizing marijuana would save us money on law enforcement. P2: We want to save money on law enforcement.
7. P1: Americans invest more in their wardrobes than their communities.
8. The earth cannot produce enough food to easily feed everyone.
10. Alex finds Mondrian's early paintings beautiful, but they make Meredith retch.

2.2 A

1. The book says this is an argument, but I think it is also very plausibly read as an explanation. If it is an argument, this is the form:
 1. The defendant is insane
 2. So, the defendant is not guilty of murder.
4. The book says that this could be read as *either* an argument or non-argument. The well-crafted version of the argument is given in the back of the book (I'm too lazy to copy it).
6. Argument.
 1. The task of science is to describe the physical world
 2. There are human experiences that do not have to do with the physical world
 3. So, Science does not deal with the whole of life.
12. Argument
 1. Most murders are crimes of passion
 2. When committing a crime of passion, one is typically not concerned about the long-term consequences of the crime.
 3. So the death penalty does not deter murder

14. Argument

1. Pacifists are either insightful or mistaken.
2. If pacifists are insightful, it is immoral for a police officer to kill a sniper who is firing at schoolchildren.
3. It is not wrong for a police officer to kill a sniper who is firing at schoolchildren.
4. So, pacifists are not insightful [note that this follows from 2 and 3 by Modus Ponens]
5. So, pacifists are mistaken [note that this follows from 1 and 4 by Disjunctive Syllogism]

19. Not an argument.

2.2B

1.

1. Every woman has a right to do what she wants with her own body
2. Abortion is something you do with your body
3. So, every woman has a right to abortion.

7.

1. There have been documented cases of an innocent person being wrongly convicted and executed.
2. If there have been documented cases of an innocent person being wrongly convicted and executed, capital punishment is unjust
3. So, capital punishment is unjust. [1, 2]
4. Our laws should be just
5. So, capital punishment should be abolished. [3, 4]

9.

1. William Shakspeare was an uneducated man
2. Uneducated men tend not to be very literate.
3. William Shakspeare had an illiterate daughter
4. People with illiterate daughters tend not to be very literate themselves
5. William Shakspeare owned no books
6. People who own no books tend not to be literate
7. So, William Shakspeare was probably not very literate [1-6]
8. Whoever wrote Hamlet etc. had to be highly literate
9. So, Shakspeare couldn't have been the author of Hamlet, etc. [7, 8]

11.

1. I can't think of any reason that would justify God in allowing so much suffering.
2. I have carefully considered whether there would be any such reasons.
3. There is no reason God would allow so much suffering

Note that if you just added the premise "Whenever I can't think of a reason, there isn't one" you would make the argument valid, but this would be uncharitable since this is obviously false.

C: 1, 5, 7, 13, 17, 18

1. Not an argument.
5. Not an argument
7. See answer key
13. See answer key
17.
 1. Youth is imaginative.
 2. If the imagination of youth is strengthened by discipline it will be preserved through life.
 3. Youth tend to lack knowledge.
 4. knowledge without imagination is bad.
 5. imagination without knowledge is bad.
 6. So the job of the university should be to combine imagination with knowledge.
18. Could be read as an explanation or an argument. This would be one possible argument form:
 1. Terrorism is the threat or use of violence against noncombatants for political purposes.
 2. So, when states use murder and torture to crush political dissent, they engage in terrorism.

This would be another:

1. Terrorism is the threat or use of violence against noncombatants for political purposes.
2. In ordinary war, the deaths of civilians are side effects of military operations directed against military targets.
3. In terrorist operations, the civilian is the direct and intentional target of attack.
4. So, George Washington was not a terrorist; but neither were the truck-bombers who attacked the Marine compound in Beirut in 1983; on the other hand, when states use murder and torture to crush political dissent, they engage in terrorism.

D: 1, 3, 6, 9

1. See answer key
3.
 1. If G, then N
 2. If not G, then I
 3. Either G or not G
 4. So, N or I [1, 2, 3 CD]
6.
 1. Either O or D
 2. Not O
 3. So D [1, 2 DS]
 4. If D, then G
 5. So G [3, 2 MP]

9.

1. If B, then D
2. If D, then F
3. So, if B then F [1, 2 HS]
4. Not F
5. So, not B [3, 4 MT]
6. If not B, then S
7. So, S [5, 6 MP]

2.3

A: 4, 8, 10, 13, 17, 19

4. See answer key

8.

While ¹[there is much wickedness in the world,] ²[there is also much good.] For ³[if there is evil, then there must be good,] since ⁴[good and evil are relative, like big and small.] And no one will deny that ⁵[evil exists.]

$$\begin{array}{r} 4 \\ \downarrow \\ 3 + 5 \\ \hline \downarrow \\ 2 \end{array}$$

10. See answer key

13. See answer key

17.

¹[Psychotherapy is a religion for many Americans.] After all, ²[fewer and fewer Americans regularly attend church, synagogue, or temple], but ³[more and more see their psychotherapists regularly.] And what do they talk about with their psychotherapists? ⁴[They talk about their inner lives, or, in other words, about the state of their souls!] For ⁵[they speak of strange impulses, confess dark thoughts, and put their deepest fears into words.] And because ⁶[only 50 years ago these same outpourings would have occurred only in the presence of a priest or pastor], it seems fair to say that ⁷[psychotherapy is indeed a religion for many Americans.]

$$\begin{array}{r} 5 \\ \downarrow \\ 2 + 3 + 4 + 6 \\ \hline \downarrow \\ 1 \end{array}$$

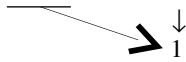
19 . See answer key

B: 2, 6, 13, 15, 19

2.

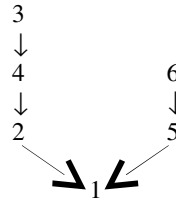
¹[If . . . our government is to function it must have dissent.] ²[Only totalitarian governments insist upon conformity] and ³[they—as we know—do so at their peril.] ⁴[Without criticism abuses will go unrebuked;] ⁵[without dissent our dynamic system will become static.]

$$\begin{array}{r} 2 + 3 \qquad 4 \qquad 5 \\ \swarrow \end{array}$$



6.

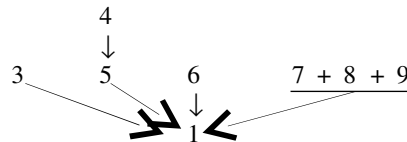
6. ¹[The legalization of drugs is neither unwise nor immoral.] ²[It is not unwise] because, ³[by legalizing drugs, we would eliminate the illegal drug trade.] Hence, ⁴[by legalizing drugs, we would rid our nation of all the violence that goes along with the illegal drug trade.] Furthermore, ⁵[the legalization of drugs is not immoral] since ⁶[it can be combined with a massive program of moral education.]



13. See answer key

15.

¹[The war in Vietnam was immoral,] for a variety of reasons. First, although ²[America's leaders insisted that the war was needed to stop the expansion of communism,] ³[there was no good reason to suppose that communism would have spread from Vietnam to any place else significant.] Second, ⁴[the war in Vietnam was a civil war.] Hence ⁵[North Vietnam was no more wrong to fight for union with South Vietnam than the northern states were wrong to fight for union with the southern states during the American Civil War.] Third, ⁶[in Vietnam, the Americans did a lot of indiscriminate killing through bombing and massive artillery strikes.] Finally, ⁷[during the war, the Americans (and their allies) killed some 600,000 Vietnamese.] ⁸[Only the achievement of a great good could justify so many deaths,] but ⁹[no great good was achieved.]



19. See answer key